

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant(s): KINO et al. | Atty. Dkt.: 26B-019 |
| Serial No.: Unknown | Group Art Unit: |
| Filed: Concurrently herewith | Examiner: |
| Title: INTAKE APPARATUS | |

Commissioner for Patents
Arlington, VA 22202

Date: July 15, 2003

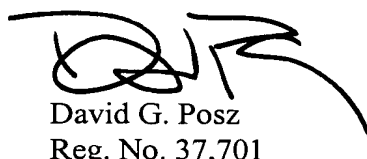
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is/are being submitted for consideration by the Examiner without any admission that it/they constitute(s) statutory prior art, or without any admission that it/they contain(s) subject matter that anticipates the invention or renders the invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached PTO Form-1449 and to return a copy of same to the undersigned attorney as proof that the listed reference(s) has/have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


David G. Posz
Reg. No. 37,701

Posz & Bethards, PLC
11250 Roger Bacon Drive
Suite 10
Reston, VA 20190
(703) 707-9110 (phone)
Customer No. 23400

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| FORM PTO-1449 | ATTY. DKT NO. | 26B-019 | SER. NO. |
| | APPLICANT | KINO et al. | |
| | FILING DATE | July 15, 2003 | GROUP |

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|------|------|-------|--------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | YES | NO |
|--|--|--|----------|---------|------|-------|--------------|-----------------|----|
| | | JP-A-2002-021660 (Discussed in page 2 of the spec.) | 1/23/02 | JAPAN | | | | X (Abstract) | |
| | | JP-A-3-279664 (Discussed in page 3 of the spec.) | 12/10/91 | JAPAN | | | | X (Abstract) | |
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* Full English text of the JP Document will be available in machine-translated form from JP (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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| EXAMINER | | DATE CONSIDERED |